



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examining Attorney: Thissell, J.T.

Applicants: VINCENT L. VAILLANCOURT

Serial No: 09/879,872

Filed: JUNE 12, 2001

TITLE: BLOODLESS CATHETER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
AUG 04 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 10, 2003.

Remarks

Claims 1 to 20 are in this application.

A request for a Three Month Extension of Time is being submitted herewith.

Claim 1 has been rejected as being clearly anticipated by Newgard. Issue is taken in this respect for the same reasons as set forth in the previous amendment filed November 25, 2002. In this regard, note was made in the previous Amendment that the obturator member 48 of Newgard is not in "circumferentially sealed relation" to the bore 42 of the hub 38 but is instead mounted on the projection 52 of the hub. Further, note was made that as shown in each of Figs. 2 and 3 of Newgard, there is a circumferential gap between the obturator member 48 and the wall of the bore 42 of the hub 38. The Examiner has not commented on this difference between Newgard and the structure recited in claim 1.